

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 24 of the specification as filed with the following re-written paragraph:

The optic fibre element stylet ~~stylet~~ 15 extends through opening 17 in lumen 14 to a termination apparatus 40 depicted schematically in FIG. 4 in the same manner as described above.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 9 of the specification as filed with the following re-written paragraph:

As the elongate member 11 curls, the surgeon can continue to further insert the curled assembly 10 into the scala tympani duct until the desired insertion is attained. Upon desired insertion, the optic fibre element stylet 15 can be fully withdrawn through the opening 17 of the lumen 14. On full withdrawal of the optic fibre element stylet 15, the elongate member 11 is free to adopt the spiral configuration depicted in ~~FIG. 6~~ in FIG. 3 with the electrodes 12 facing the modiolus within the cochlea 30 so that they are positioned as close as possible to the spiral ganglia thereof.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 23 of the specification as filed with the following re-written paragraph:

In this regard it is envisaged that the optic fibre element stylet 15 can consist of more than one element having potentially two functions, or redundant functions. For example, in one embodiment the optic fibre element stylet 15 can consist of two elements, one element to perform the stiffening function, and one optic fibre element to perform the optical function and supplement the stiffening of the electrode array. In another embodiment, two optic fibre elements may be ~~provides~~ provided where one element acts as a light source transporting light to the end of the electrode array, and the other captures the optic signal, with both elements together acting to perform the stiffening function. It is also envisaged that two identical optic fibre elements can be provided, with both ~~element~~ elements functioning to perform the optics and some stiffening. In this embodiment, if there are two such optic fibre elements, then an electrode array can be provided having 3 different configurations (straight, partly curved and fully curved), by

removing one of the elements at different points in the insertion procedure. Such an embodiment may be useful for providing an atraumatic insertion procedure.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 11 of the specification as filed with the following re-written paragraph:

The probe 50 comprises a straight elongate carrier member 51 that is adapted to be at least partially inserted into one of the ducts (eg. the scala tympani) of the cochlea 30. The member 51 has a proximal end 52, a distal end 53, and a lumen formed therein that extends from the proximal end 52 ~~proximal end 51~~ of the member to a location that is at or adjacent the distal end 53 of the carrier member 51. As depicted in FIG. 5, the lumen is adapted to receive one or more optic fibres 54 that extend from an endoscopic system 55 and into the lumen.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 28 of the specification as filed with the following re-written paragraph:

The eyepiece and/or the camera lens preferably receive light reflected through the one or more optic fibres from an object illuminated by the light emitting from the distal end of the optic fibres. A magnifying device and/or ~~foeussing~~ focusing device can be incorporated, if necessary, into the endoscopic system 55.